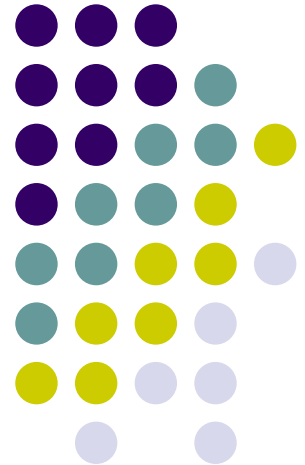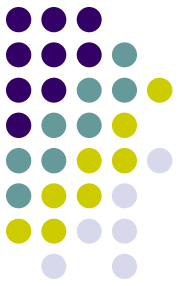# A Global Perspective on Human Trafficking: Systemic Issues

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Saint Joseph College
West Hartford, Connecticut

May 16, 2008
Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, District 6
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Outline of Presentation

ᘒ **Introduction**

    ᘒ **Definitions of Human Trafficking**

    ᘒ **Types of Human Trafficking**

    ᘒ **A Visual Geography of Trafficking**

ᘒ **Data/Data Discrepancies/Data Disputes**

ᘒ **Systemic Causes**

    ᘒ **Globalization**

    ᘒ **Migration**

    ᘒ **Patriarchal Systems**

    ᘒ **Commodification of Labor and Sex**

ᘒ **Approaches Towards Combating Trafficking**

    ᘒ **The Prosecution Approach**

    ᘒ **The Human Rights Approach**

    ᘒ **The Human Development Approach**

    ᘒ **The Human Security Approach**

ᘒ **Importance of Unraveling Multiple Perspectives**

ᘒ **Conclusion**

Introduction

A Sample of Recent News on Sex Trafficking

Sex-trafficking defendant awaits sentencing
CONNECTICUT POST
MICHAEL P. MAYKO
05/14/2008 12:12:43 AM EDT

BRIDGEPORT — He gave them names like "Sin," "T" and "Barbie."
He made them work in strip bars like Pleasant Moments on Williams Street and Bishop's Corner Cafe on Barnum Avenue. And when they got out of line he threatened them, degraded them, beat them and, in one case, slashed a girl from neck to shoulders sending her to the hospital.
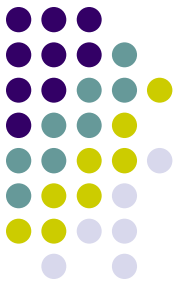These are just some of the reasons why Corey Davis, who has pleaded guilty to sex-trafficking charges, deserves at least 293 months in prison, Assistant U.S. Attorney Krishna Patel wrote in a sentencing memo to U.S. District Judge Janet C. Hall.

Definitions of Trafficking

- Array of definitions:
  - The U.N. Protocol
  - The U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report
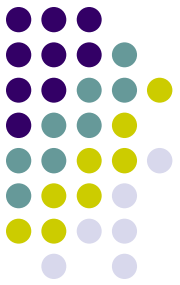 - State Statutes

The U.N. Protocol

- **First International Definition [2000]**

   UN Protocol To Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

"**Trafficking in persons shall mean**
- **the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction,**

- **of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.**

- **Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs."**

The U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act [2000]

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act defines "severe form of trafficking in persons" as

(a) sex trafficking in which a **commercial sex act** is induced by force, fraud, or **coercion**, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or

(b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

State Statutes: Connecticut
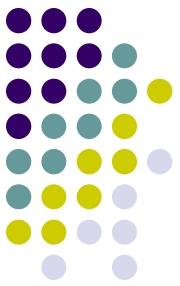
- For the purposes of this state law, trafficking means "all acts involved in the recruitment, abduction, transport, harboring, transfer, sale or receipt of persons, within national or across international borders, through force, coercion, fraud or deception, to place persons in situations of slavery or slavery-like conditions, forced labor or services, such as forced prostitution or sexual services, domestic servitude, bonded sweatshop labor or other debt bondage." (Section 1 (a)).

"Confused" Conflations and Contestations in Definitions
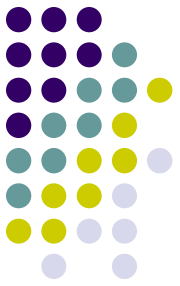
- Trafficking and Smuggling

- Trafficking and Prostitution

- Trafficking and Slavery

- Debates on the definitions, methodologies and the politics of the movement.

Types of Trafficking

- Labor trafficking
- Sex trafficking
- Child trafficking
- Other categories that sometimes get discussed under the definition of trafficking include:
  - Mail order brides
  - Debt bondage
  - Camel jockeys

Visual Geography of Human Trafficking: Worldwide
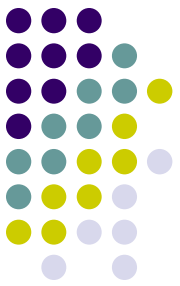
Figure 1: Reported human trafficking: main origin, transit and destination countries
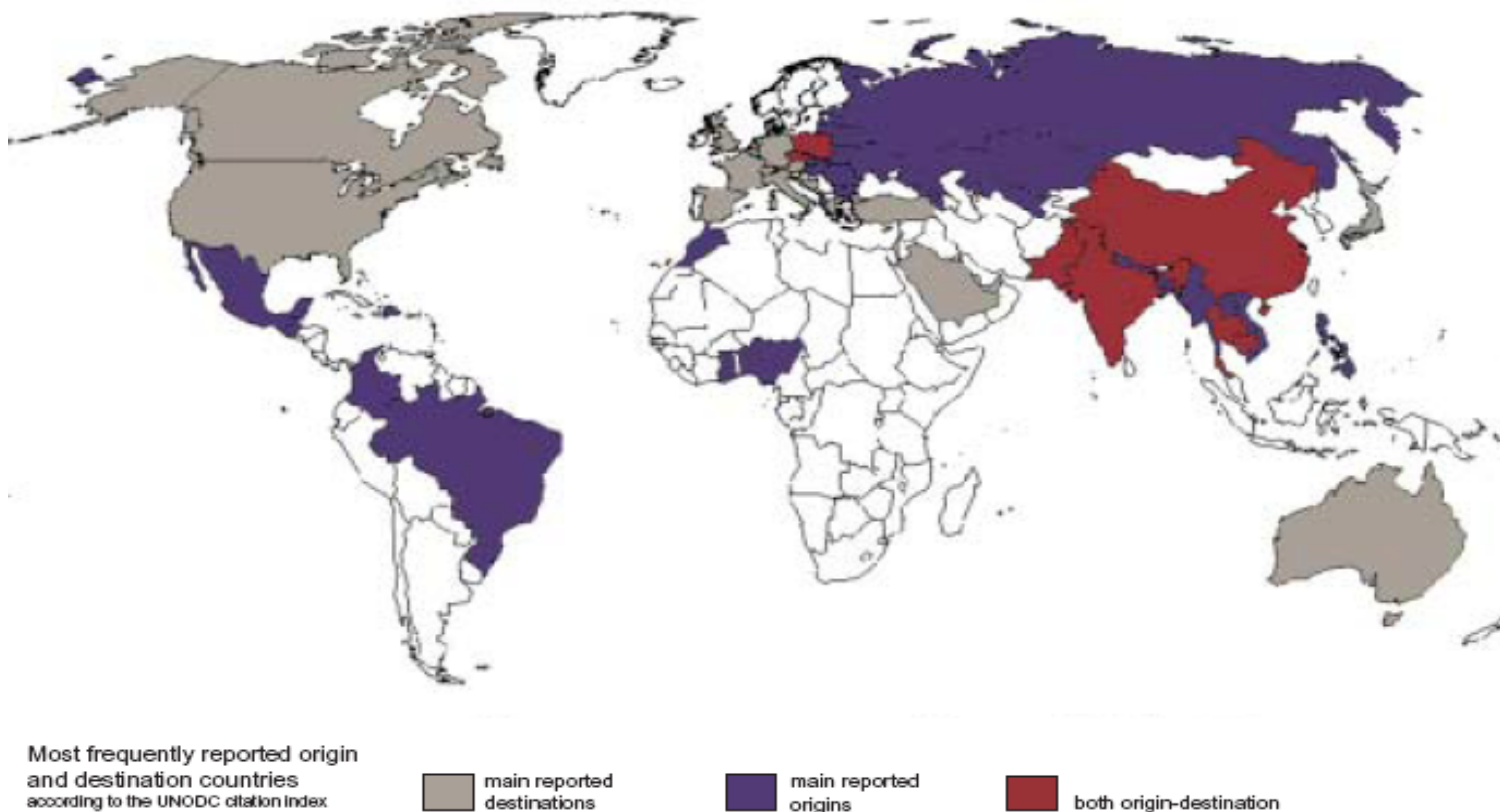
Most frequently reported origin and destination countries according to the UNODC citation index

- main reported destinations
- main reported origins
- both origin-destination

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns, April 2006

Figure 22: Countries of Origin, as measured by the extent of reporting of trafficking
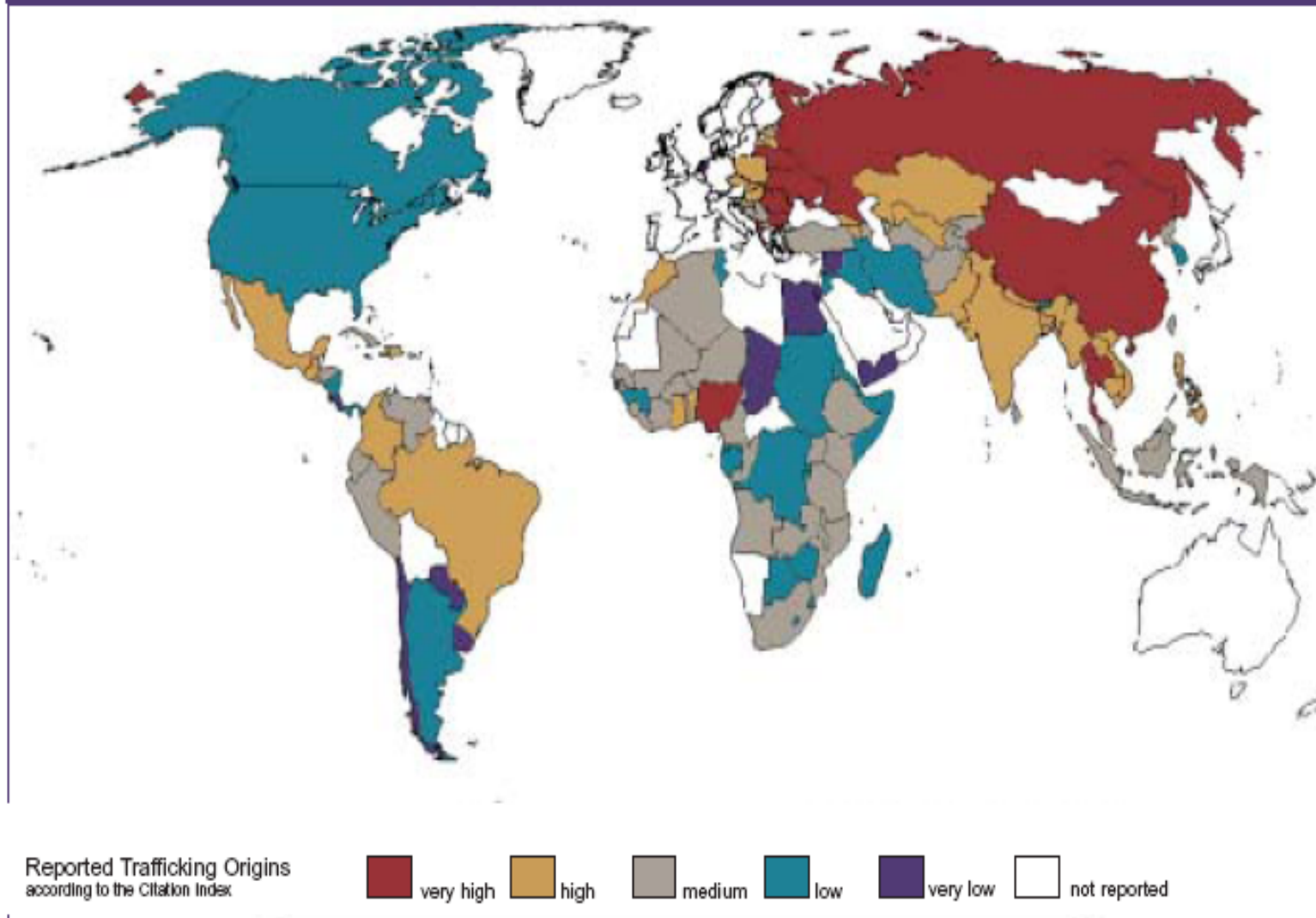
Reported Trafficking Origins
according to the Citation Index

| very high | high | medium | low | very low | not reported |

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns, April 2006

Figure 23: Countries of Transit, as measured by the extent of reporting of trafficking
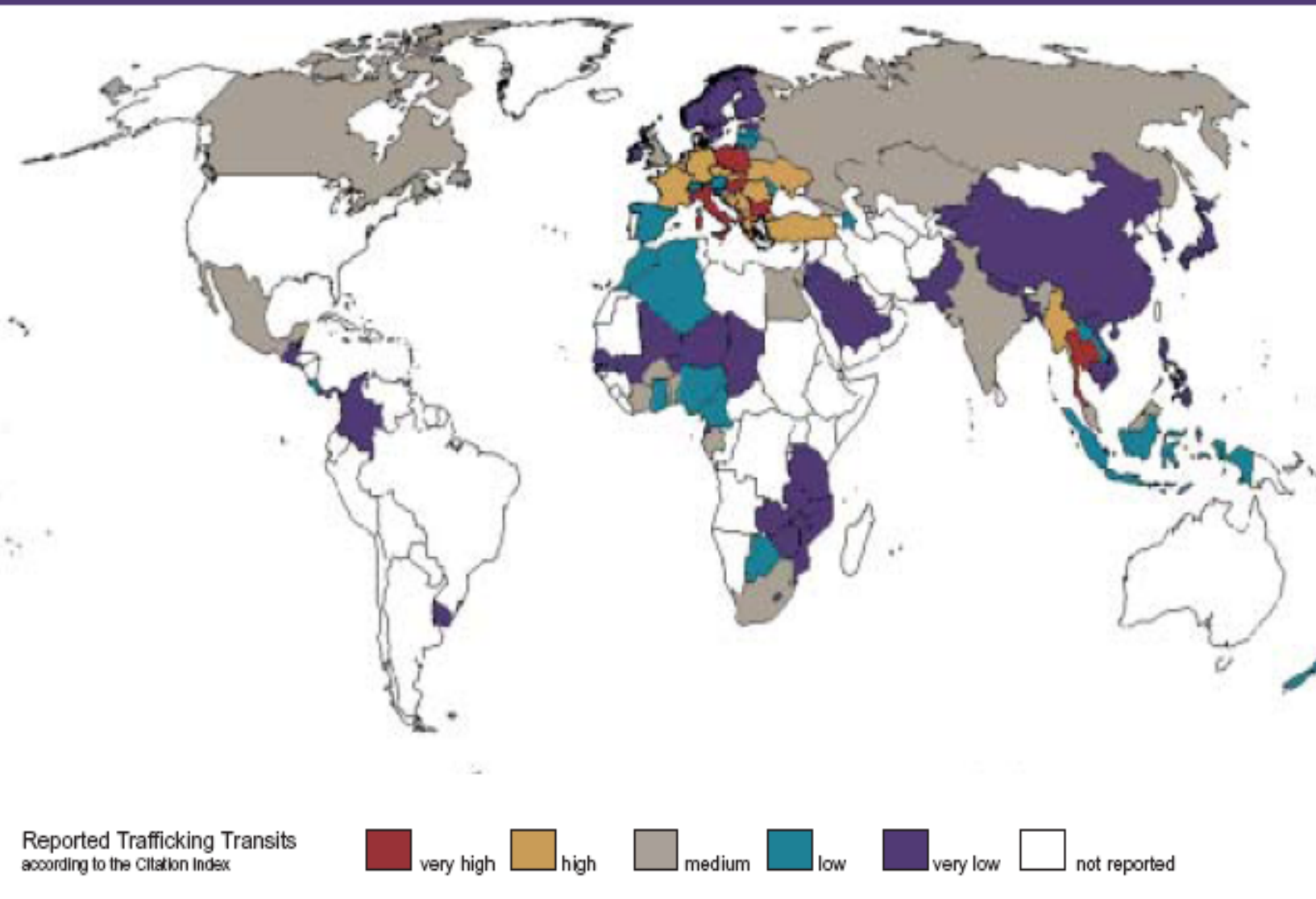
Reported Trafficking Transits
according to the Citation Index

- very high
- high
- medium
- low
- very low
- not reported

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns, April 2006

Figure 24: Countries of Destination, as measured by the extent of reporting of trafficking

Reported Trafficking Destinations according to the Citation Index

very high | high | medium | low | very low | not reported

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns, April 2006

Visual Geography of Human Trafficking: U.S.A.

Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children: USA Routes
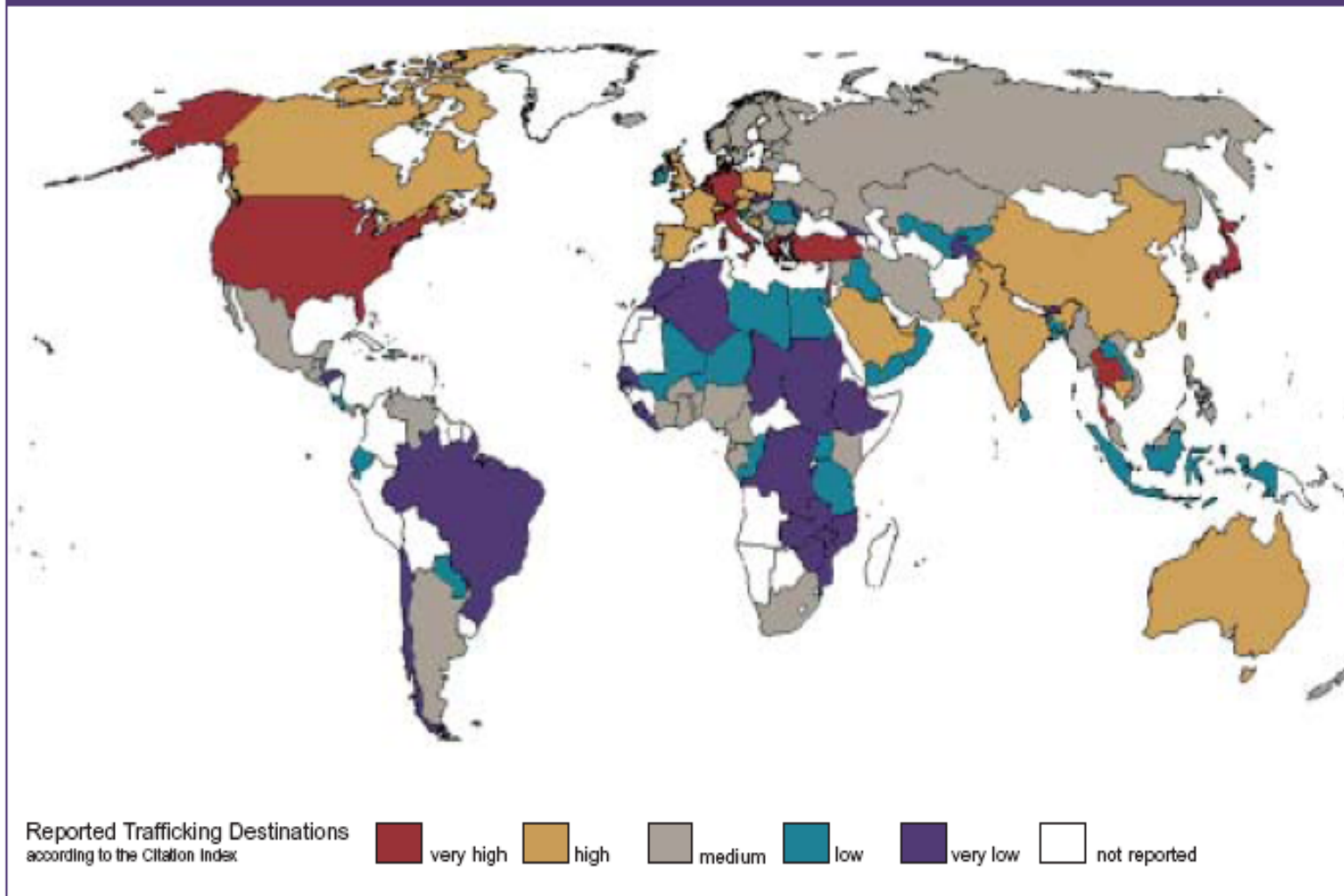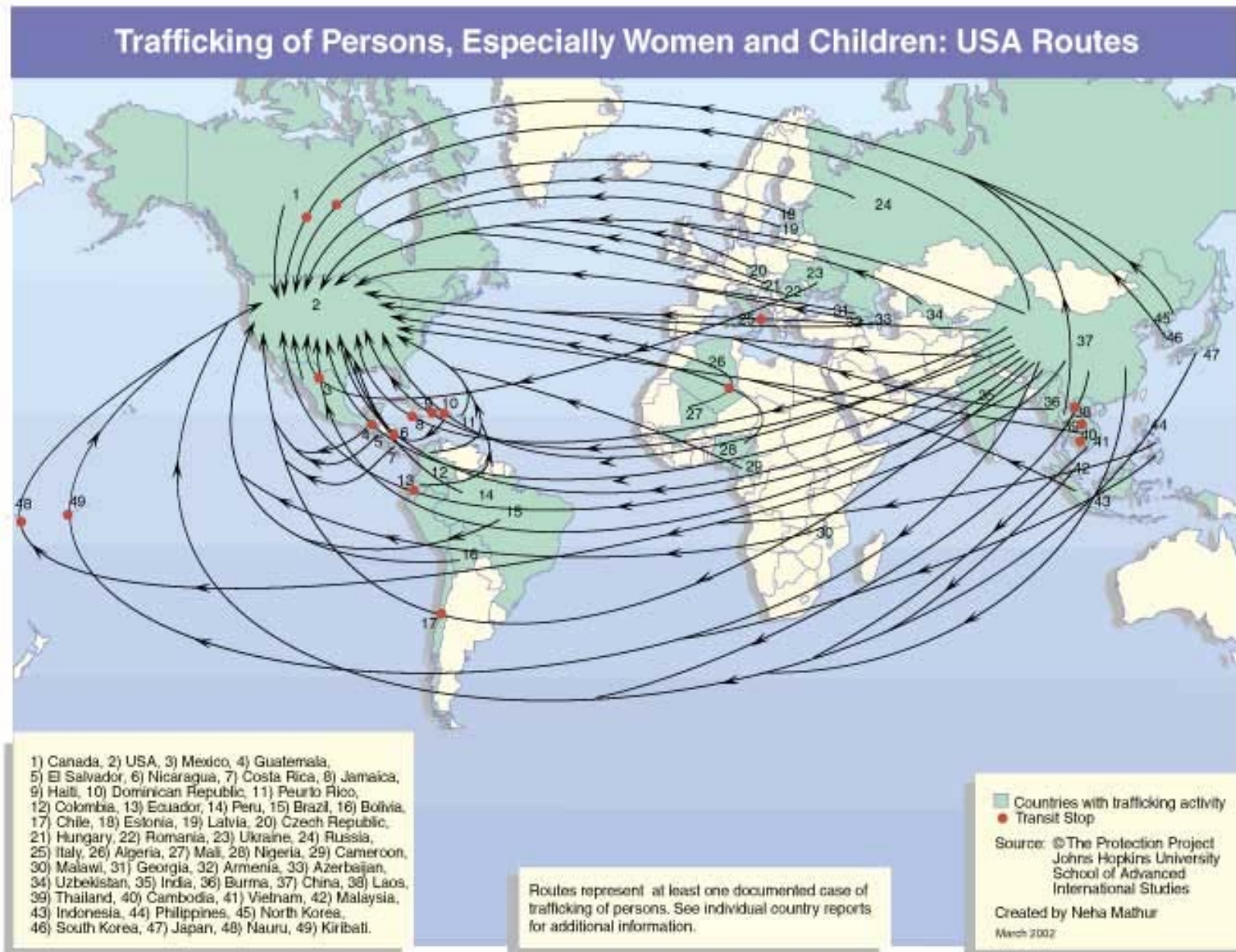
1) Canada, 2) USA, 3) Mexico, 4) Guatemala,
5) El Salvador, 6) Nicaragua, 7) Costa Rica, 8) Jamaica,
9) Haiti, 10) Dominican Republic, 11) Peurto Rico,
12) Colombia, 13) Ecuador, 14) Peru, 15) Brazil, 16) Bolivia,
17) Chile, 18) Estonia, 19) Latvia, 20) Czech Republic,
21) Hungary, 22) Romania, 23) Ukraine, 24) Russia,
25) Italy, 26) Algeria, 27) Mali, 28) Nigeria, 29) Cameroon,
30) Malawi, 31) Georgia, 32) Armenia, 33) Azerbaijan,
34) Uzbekistan, 35) India, 36) Burma, 37) China, 38) Laos,
39) Thailand, 40) Cambodia, 41) Vietnam, 42) Malaysia,
43) Indonesia, 44) Philippines, 45) North Korea,
46) South Korea, 47) Japan, 48) Nauru, 49) Kiribati.

☐ Countries with trafficking activity
● Transit Stop

Source: ©The Protection Project
Johns Hopkins University
School of Advanced
International Studies

Created by Neha Mathur

March 2002

Routes represent at least one documented case of
trafficking of persons. See individual country reports
for additional information.

Source: Protection Project, SAIS, JHU, 2002

Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children: Russia Routes

Countries with trafficking activity
● Transit Stop

Source: © The Protection Project
Johns Hopkins University
School of Advanced
International Studies

Created by Neha Mathur

March 2002

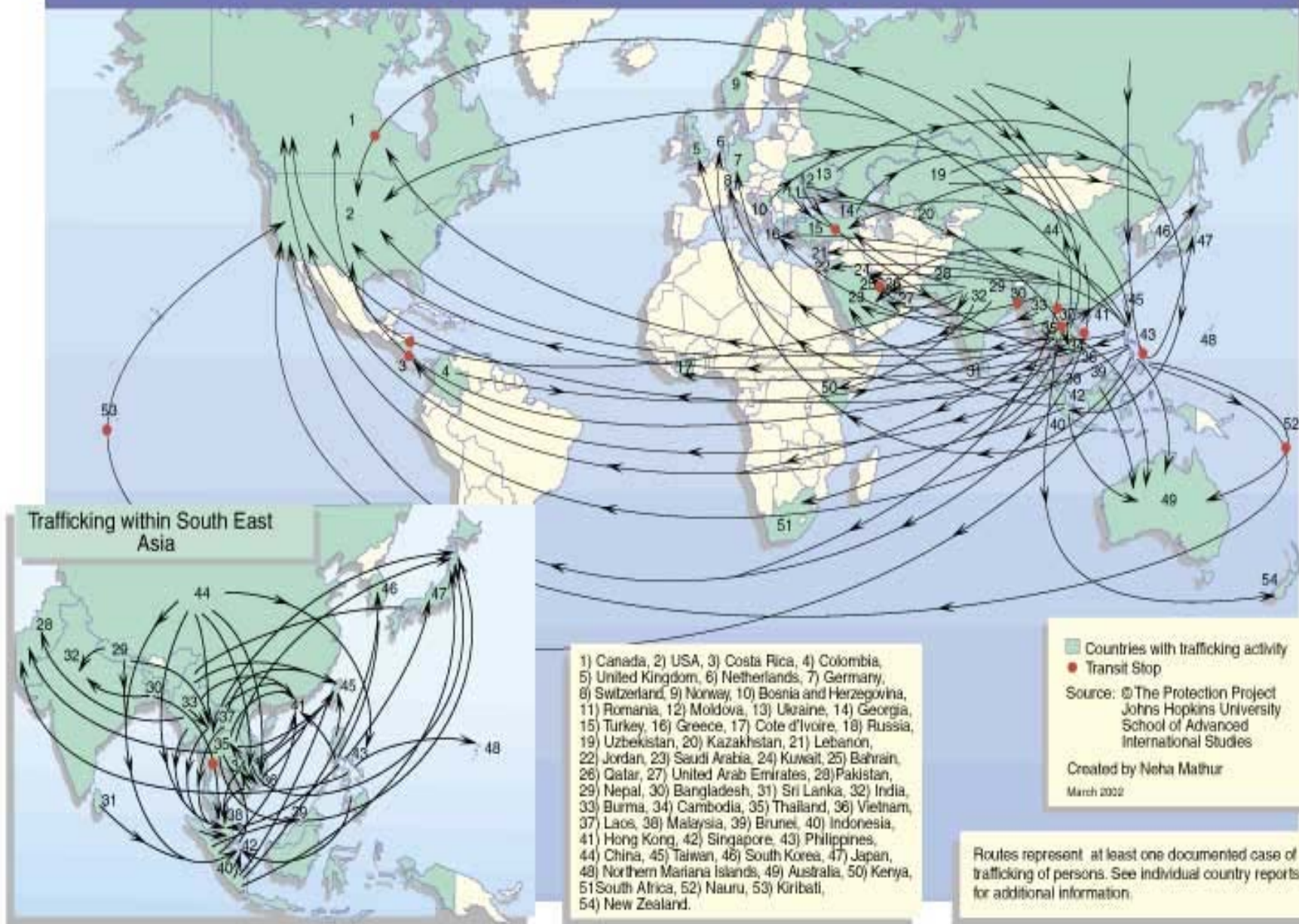Routes represent at least one documented case of trafficking of persons. See individual country reports for additional information.
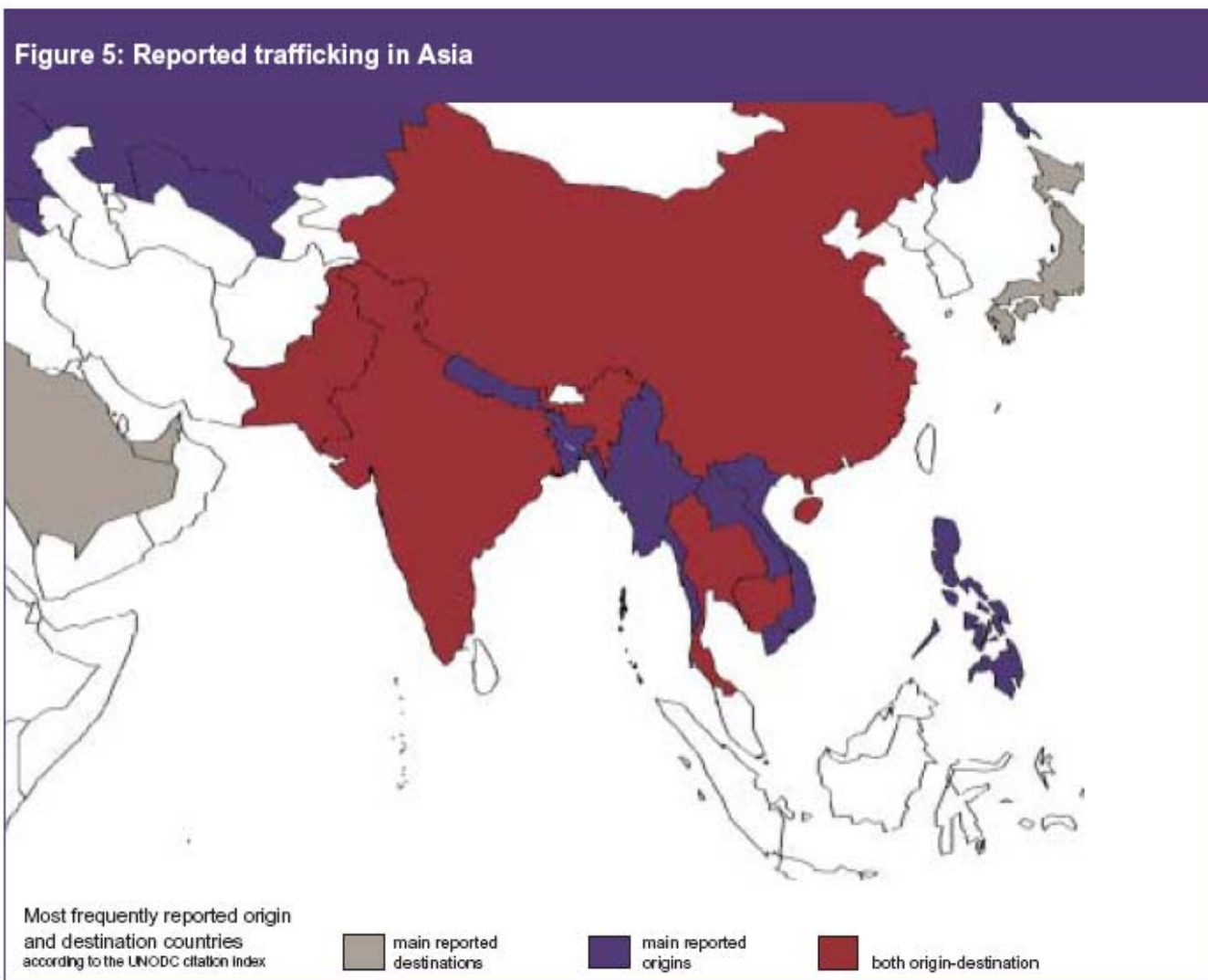
Trafficking From Russia to Europe

1) Costa Rica, 2) Mexico, 3) U.S., 4) Canada, 5) Norway, 6) Finland,
7) Netherlands, 8) Belgium, 9) Ireland, 10) France, 11) Spain,
12) Switzerland, 13) Germany, 14) Czech Republic, 15) Poland, 16) Hungary,
17) Croatia, 18) Bosnia, 19) Yugoslavia, 20) Montenegro, 21) Kosovo,
22) Bulgaria, 23) Greece, 24) Turkey, 25) Cyprus, 26) Syria, 27) Israel,
28) Egypt, 29) South Africa, 30) United Arab Emirates, 31) Qatar,
32) Bahrain, 33) Kuwait, 34) Pakistan, 35) Tajikistan, 36) Turkmenistan,
37) Uzbekistan, 38) Kazakhstan, 39) Russia, 40) China, 41) Thailand,
42) Malaysia, 43) Macau, 44) Philippines, 45) Northern Mariana Islands,
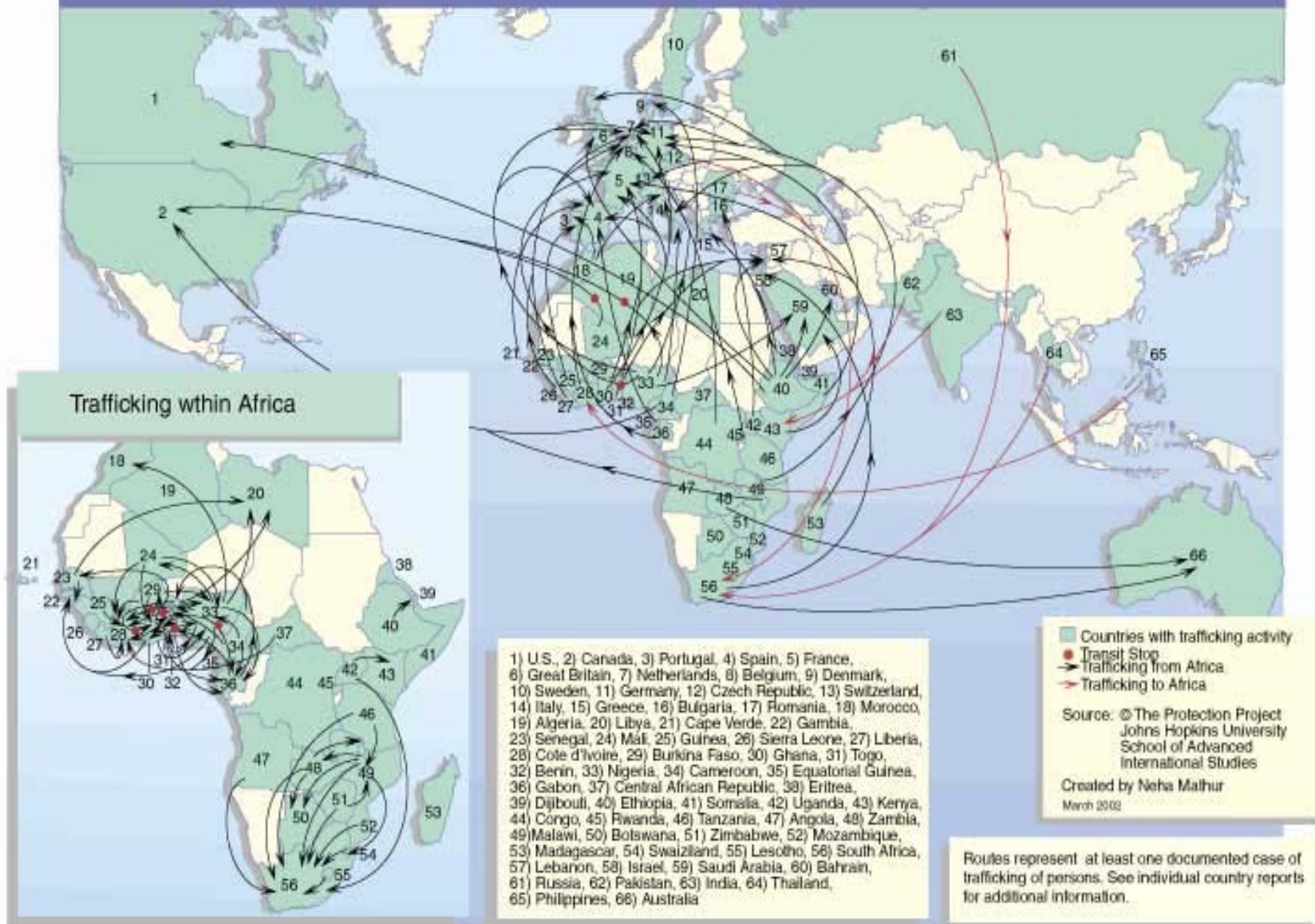46) South Korea, 47) Japan.

Source: Protection Project, SAIS, JHU, 2002

Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children: South East Asia Routes

Trafficking within South East Asia

1) Canada, 2) USA, 3) Costa Rica, 4) Colombia,
5) United Kingdom, 6) Netherlands, 7) Germany,
8) Switzerland, 9) Norway, 10) Bosnia and Herzegovina,
11) Romania, 12) Moldova, 13) Ukraine, 14) Georgia,
15) Turkey, 16) Greece, 17) Cote d'Ivoire, 18) Russia,
19) Uzbekistan, 20) Kazakhstan, 21) Lebanon,
22) Jordan, 23) Saudi Arabia, 24) Kuwait, 25) Bahrain,
26) Qatar, 27) United Arab Emirates, 28) Pakistan,
29) Nepal, 30) Bangladesh, 31) Sri Lanka, 32) India,
33) Burma, 34) Cambodia, 35) Thailand, 36) Vietnam,
37) Laos, 38) Malaysia, 39) Brunei, 40) Indonesia,
41) Hong Kong, 42) Singapore, 43) Philippines,
44) China, 45) Taiwan, 46) South Korea, 47) Japan,
48) Northern Mariana Islands, 49) Australia, 50) Kenya,
51) South Africa, 52) Nauru, 53) Kiribati,
54) New Zealand.

Countries with trafficking activity
Transit Stop

Source: © The Protection Project
Johns Hopkins University
School of Advanced
International Studies

Created by Neha Mathur

March 2002

Routes represent at least one documented case of
trafficking of persons. See individual country reports
for additional information.

Source: Protection Project, SAIS, JHU, 2002

Figure 5: Reported trafficking in Asia

Most frequently reported origin and destination countries according to the UNODC citation index

main reported destinations

main reported origins

both origin-destination

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns, April 2006

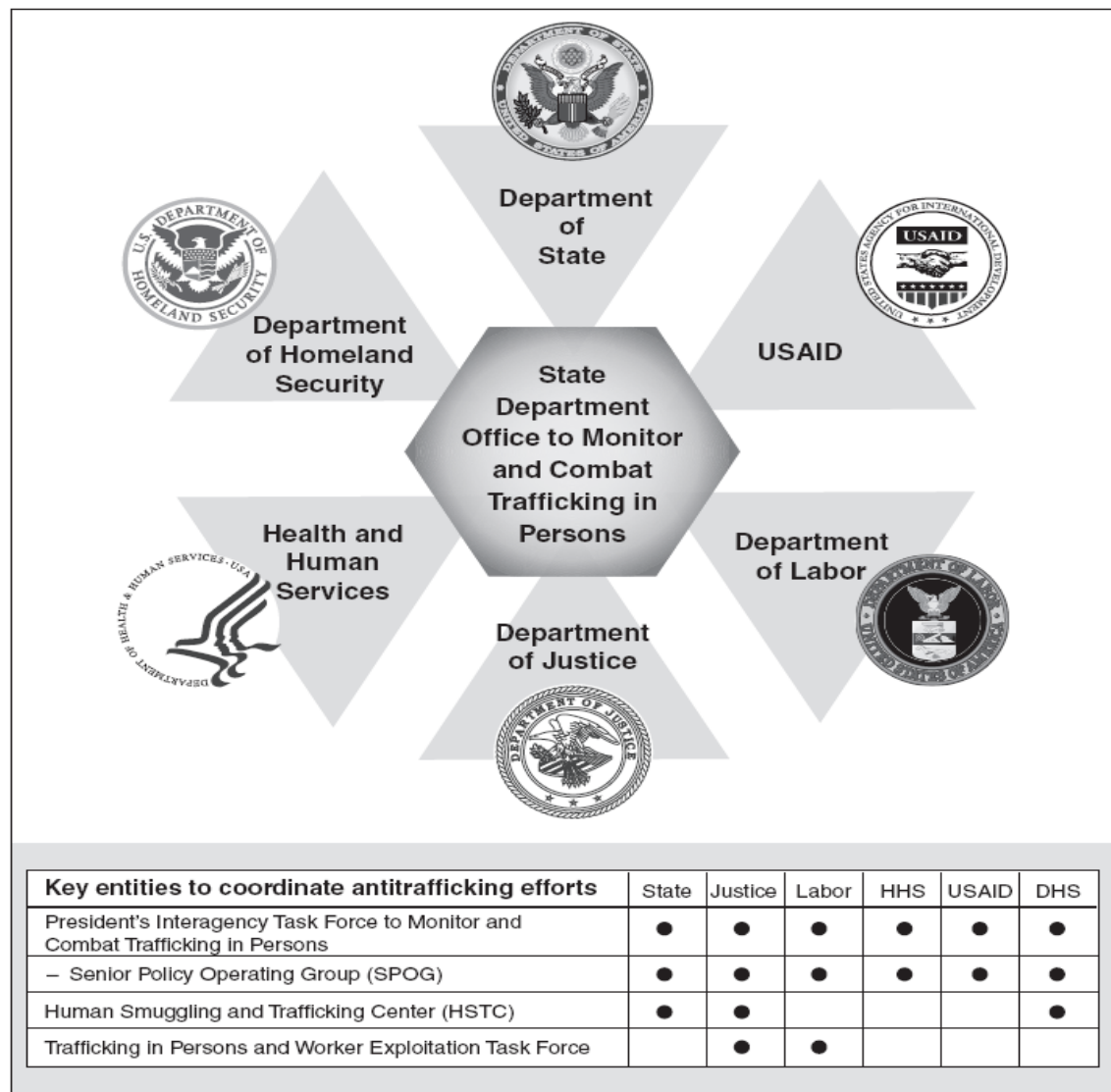# Trafficking of Persons, Especially Women and Children: Africa Routes

Trafficking wthin Africa

1) U.S., 2) Canada, 3) Portugal, 4) Spain, 5) France,
6) Great Britain, 7) Netherlands, 8) Belgium, 9) Denmark,
10) Sweden, 11) Germany, 12) Czech Republic, 13) Switzerland,
14) Italy, 15) Greece, 16) Bulgaria, 17) Romania, 18) Morocco,
19) Algeria, 20) Libya, 21) Cape Verde, 22) Gambia,
23) Senegal, 24) Mali, 25) Guinea, 26) Sierra Leone, 27) Liberia,
28) Cote d'Ivoire, 29) Burkina Faso, 30) Ghana, 31) Togo,
32) Benin, 33) Nigeria, 34) Cameroon, 35) Equatorial Guinea,
36) Gabon, 37) Central African Republic, 38) Eritrea,
39) Djibouti, 40) Ethiopia, 41) Somalia, 42) Uganda, 43) Kenya,
44) Congo, 45) Rwanda, 46) Tanzania, 47) Angola, 48) Zambia,
49) Malawi, 50) Botswana, 51) Zimbabwe, 52) Mozambique,
53) Madagascar, 54) Swaziland, 55) Lesotho, 56) South Africa,
57) Lebanon, 58) Israel, 59) Saudi Arabia, 60) Bahrain,
61) Russia, 62) Pakistan, 63) India, 64) Thailand,
65) Philippines, 66) Australia

Countries with trafficking activity
Transit Stop
Trafficking from Africa
Trafficking to Africa

Source: © The Protection Project
Johns Hopkins University
School of Advanced
International Studies

Created by Neha Mathur

March 2002

Routes represent at least one documented case of
trafficking of persons. See individual country reports
for additional information.

Source: Protection Project, SAIS, JHU, 2002

Data/Data Discrepancies/Data Disputes

- Each year 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked across international borders, half of whom are children.

- This 9.5-billion-dollar a year industry is hardly limited to the developing world, with 14,500 to 17,500 victims trafficked into the United States every year, according to the U.S. State Department.*

- Comprehending the numbers
- Disputes
- Examples of the disputes

  * Based on data published since 2001

Figure 1: Principal U.S. Government Agencies with Responsibilities for Antitrafficking Activities and Associated Coordination Entities

Key entities to coordinate antitrafficking efforts	State	Justice	Labor	HHS	USAID	DHS
President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons	●	●	●	●	●	●
– Senior Policy Operating Group (SPOG)	●	●	●	●	●	●
Human Smuggling and Trafficking Center (HSTC)	●	●				●
Trafficking in Persons and Worker Exploitation Task Force		●	●			

Sources: Departments of Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Justice, Labor, and State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (data); Corel (logos).

Source: GAO Report on Human Trafficking Data, July 2006
http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06825.pdf

Data Discrepancies: I

Table 2: Victim Profiles in U.S. government, ILO, UNODC, and IOM databases

	U.S. government	ILO[a]	UNODC[b]	IOM[c]
Main focus	Global estimate of victims	Global estimate of victims	Country and regional patterns of international trafficking	Actual victims assisted by IOM in 26 countries
Number of victims	600,000 to 800,000 people trafficked across borders in 2003[d] (est.)	At least 2.45 million people trafficked internationally and internally during 1995 to 2004 (est.)	Not available	7,711 victims assisted during 1999 to 2005
Type of exploitation Commercial sex	66%	43%	87%[e]	81%
Economic or forced labor	34%	32%	28%	14%
Mixed and other		25%		5%
Gender and age of victims	80% female[f] 50% minors	80% female[g] 40% minors	77% female[h] 9% male 33% children	83% female 15% male 2% not identified 13% minors
Definition of trafficking used	TVPA 2000	U.N. Protocol	U.N. Protocol	U.N. Protocol
Criteria for data collection	Transnational trafficking	Internal and transnational trafficking	Transnational trafficking	Internal and transnational trafficking

Source: GAO analysis of U.S. government, ILO, UNODC, and IOM data.

Source: GAO Report on Human Trafficking Data, July 2006

http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06825.pdf

Data Discrepancies: II

Data Comparison Sheet #1 (v. 2)
Worldwide Trafficking Estimates by Organizations
Data cited or attributed to various organizations regarding the annual flow of trafficked people worldwide.
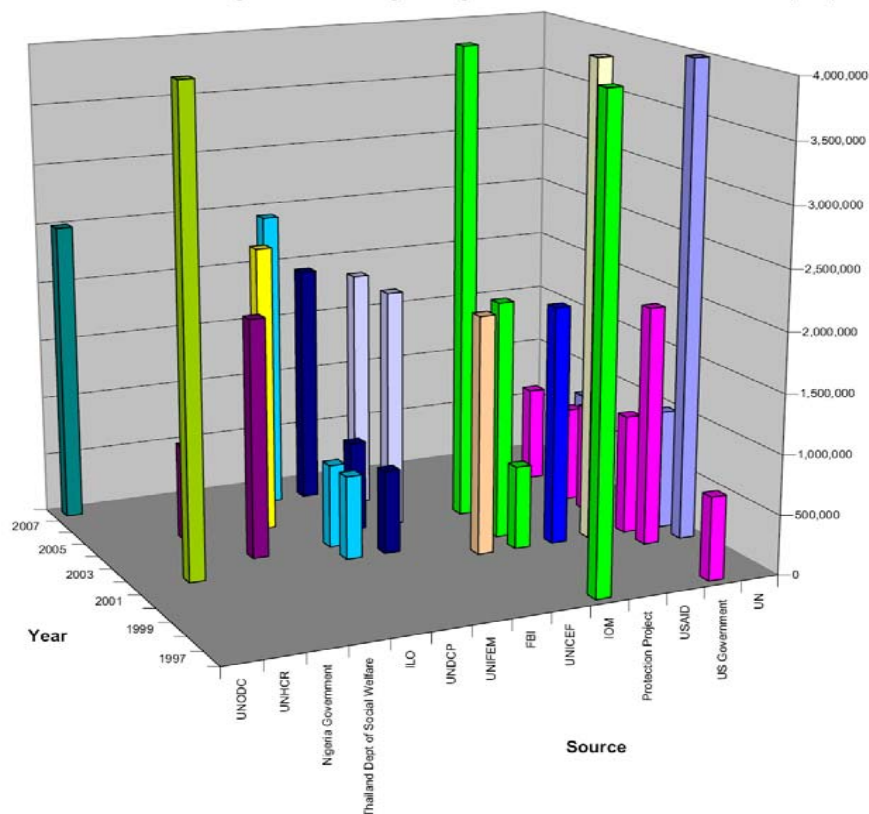
Data Discrepancies: III

"Existing estimates of the scale of trafficking at the global level are questionable, and improvements in data collection have not yet been implemented.

The accuracy of the estimates is in doubt because of methodological weaknesses, gaps in data and numerical discrepancies."

Source: GAO Report on Human Trafficking Data, July 2006.

Reasons for Data Discrepancies

Table 3: Reasons that Limit the Quality of Trafficking Data

Availability	Reliability	Comparability
1. Trafficking is an illegal activity and victims are afraid to seek help from the relevant authorities. 2. Few countries collect data on actual victims on a systematic basis. 3. Data collection is focused on women and children trafficked for sexual exploitation, and other forms of trafficking are likely to be underreported.	1. Capacity for data collection and analysis in countries of origin is often inadequate. 2. Trafficking convictions in countries of destination are based on victim testimony. 3. Estimates of trafficking are extrapolated from samples of reported victims, which may not be random and thus representative of all trafficking victims.	1. Countries and organizations define trafficking differently. 2. Official statistics do not make clear distinctions among trafficking, smuggling, and illegal migration. 3. Data are often program specific and focus on characteristics of victims pertinent to specific agencies.

Source: GAO analysis of reports, articles and presentations from international organizations, the U.S. government and academia.

Source: GAO Report on Human Trafficking Data, July 2006
http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06825.pdf

Systemic Causes

- Globalization
- Circles of Connections and Networks of Links
  - Economic Dimensions
  - "The underbelly of globalism"
  - Transnational Networks
  - Urbanization
  - "Space time compression"
 - Industry Profits

Migration

- Migration
  - Push factors
  - Pull factors
- Debates about the push and pull factors
- "Feminization" of migration
- Social Networks
- Skepticism regarding immigration policies

Patriarchal Systems

- "Women, the last colony" [Maria Mies]
- Different systems of morals for men and women
- "Selling of girls" by parents
- Linkages between migration and patriarchal systems

Commodification of Labor and Sex
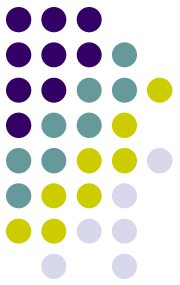
- Late capitalism
- Globalization
- Care work
- Liberalization of the "Sex Industry"
- Commercial Sex

Approaches to Human Trafficking: The Prosecution Approach
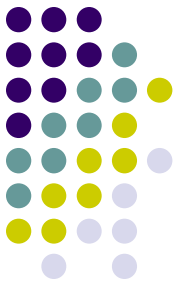
The Enforcement/Prosecution/Protection Approach:

- Merits
- Limitations

The Human Rights Approach

- In this year of the 60ᵗʰ anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), we are still struggling to look at the issue of trafficking within the context of the human rights of the "victims" of trafficking;

- *Article 1. among 30 articles*

    "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood."

- Has there been a regression in light of our topic?

The Human Development Approach

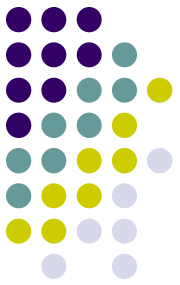Figure 1.1 — Economic growth and human development

Source: http://www.worldbank.org/depweb/beyond/global/fig/fig1-1.gif
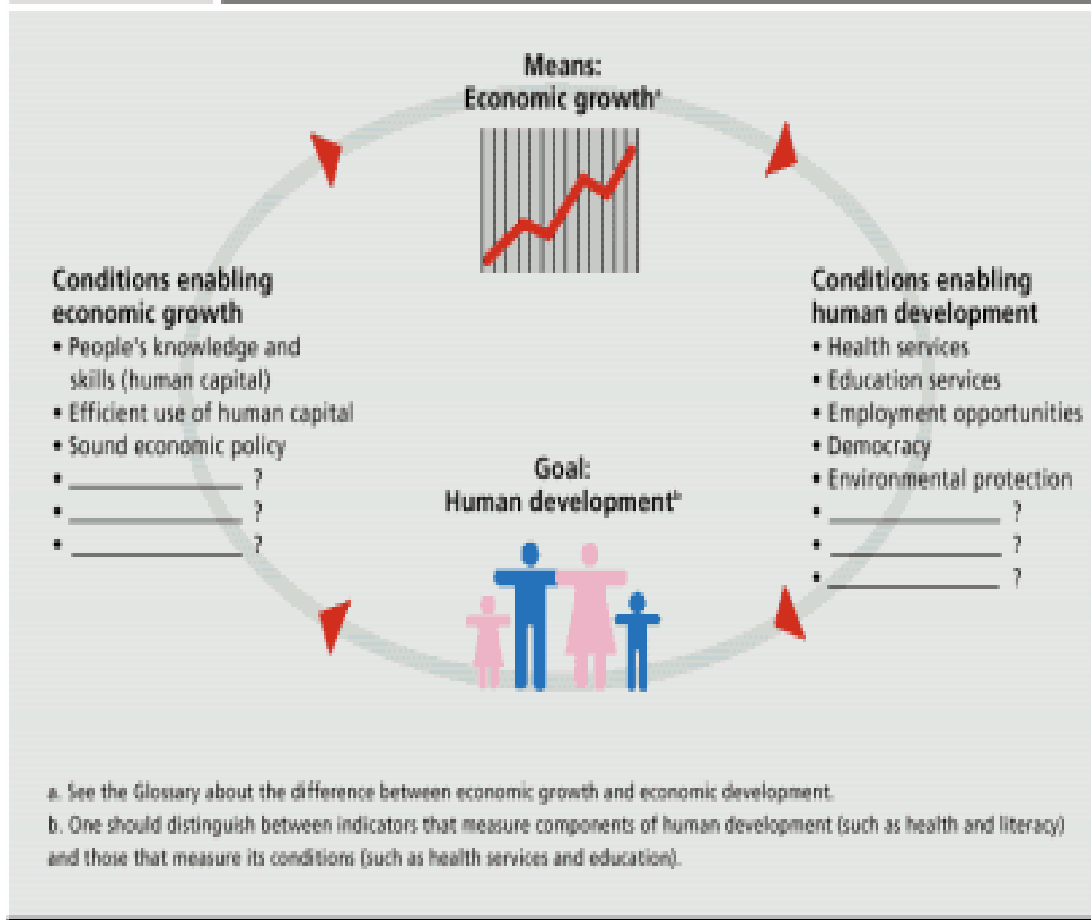
Millennium Development Goals
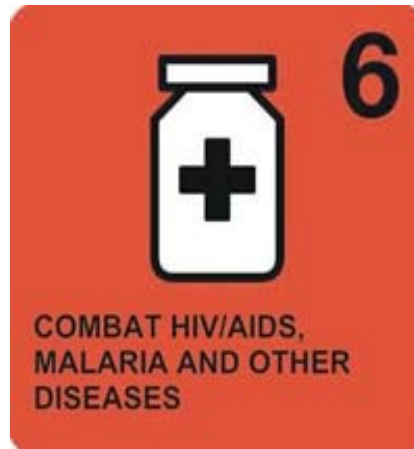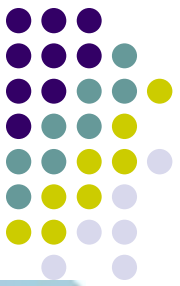
Source: UNDP

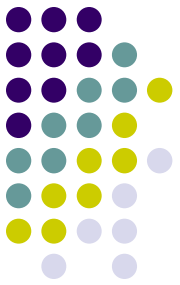# A Moment for Reflection

Eugene, OR, 97405

Hey Kristof;
why should the U.S 'care' for the rest of the world? THE U.S should take care of its own.
People have been in Africa for thousands of years — & look at their progress during those years. TRIBAL still!
Its way past time for LIBERAL twits to stop pushing the U.S into nonsense or try to make every wrong in the world our responsibility.

- Are the MDGs an obligation, responsibility, investment?

The Human Security Approach

Human Security

"People's security around the world is interlinked - as today's global flows of goods, services, finance, people and images highlight. Political liberalization and democratization opens new opportunities but also new fault lines, such as political and economic instabilities and conflicts within states."

Report on the Commission for Human Security, 2003
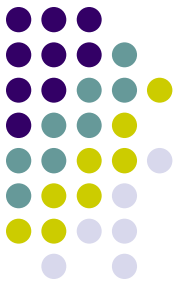
The Human Security Approach: II

Source: www.ubuntu.ie/themes/theme_development.php

Multiple Perspectives

- Creation of awareness of multiple ways of looking at the issues involved

- Victim or agent? Consent or Coercion?

- The "rescue industry"

- Is it a form of "border control" at a time when capital is mobile but labor may not be mobile?

- Neo-colonialism?

- Understanding the ideological foundations of globalization

Conclusion

- Our role as
  - Health professionals
  - Activists
  - Educators
  - Scholars
- Public awareness
- Questioning the statistics
- Understanding the context of the systemic causes
- Seeking a balance between the approaches for combating human trafficking.